

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 15 on page 9 with the following marked up paragraph:

-- Thereafter an initial transaction agent is instantiated on switching network element 230. This switching network element also typically contains the element management system (EMS) which manages the network. In one embodiment, this initial transaction agent is labeled the coordinator transaction agent 232, while replications of this coordinator transaction agent are referred to as replicated transaction agents. The coordinator transaction agent 232 has stored therein the itinerary and facility list, and is responsible for coordinating the transition state changes of the replicated transaction agents.

{Siegfried, is this illustration of an itinerary list adequate? How should I represent the facilities on this figure?} –

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